

## Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

NEA-10 DRC-01 /117 W

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R 081147Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5905

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB

SUBJECT: ILO DG

REF: (A) PARIS 0174; (B) GENEVA 6735

1. SUMMARY: ACTING DG FRANCIS BLANCHARD IN REMARKS TO LABATT AT INFORMAL GATHERING PARIS JANUARY 4 INDICATED IDENTITY OF VIEW WITH USG ON MAJOR ISSUES IN ILO. THESE REMARKS CONFIRM ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY GENEVA.  
END SUMMARY.

2. AT SMALL RECEPTION IN ILO PARIS OFFICE VISITING ILO ACTING DB FRANCIS BLANCHARD MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO LABATT:

A. HE SAID THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO CONFIRM TO US CHARGE AND LABATT AT GENEVA DECEMBER 21 HIS AGREEMENT WITH USG VIEWS ON ALL QUESTIONS RAISED STATE'S 246876. POINTING TO TYPED SUMMARY OF 12 QUESTIONS GROUPED UNDER FIVE HEADINGS, BLANCHARD SAID HE FELT AS STRONGLY AS USG ON "EVERY ONE OF THESE QUESTIONS".

B. HE SINGLED OUT AS EXAMPLES THE US INTEREST IN APPOINTMENT OF US CITIZEN AS DEPUTY ILO DIRECTOR TO SUPERVISE ADMINISTRATIVE, PROGRAM AND BUDGETARY MATTERS; AND ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE STANDARD IN MEASURING COMPLIANCE WITH ILO CONVENTIONS BY  
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DEMOCRATIC AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. WITH REGARD TO FIRST

POINT, IF ELECTED, HE HOPED THAT US WOULD BE ABLE TO RECOMMEND TO HIM FOR SELECTION INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT ONLY PROFESSIONALLY COMPETENT BUT WHO ARE ALSO STRONG PERSONALITIES ABLE TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP.

C. HE BROADENED THE FOREGOING REMARKS TO POINT OUT THAT HIS CONCERN IS NOT OVER ACCEPTABILITY OF USG VIEWS BUT OVER WHETHER THE USG WOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE HIM CONSISTENT SUPPORT HE WILL NEED TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

D. ON QUESTION OF FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE 19-20 JANUARY,

BLANCHARD SAID THAT NOW THAT THIS "INFORMAL" CONFERENCE HAS BECOME INEVITABLE, THE DEMOCRATIC EFFORT (WITH WHICH HE FELT FULLY ASSOCIATED) SHOULD BE TO DOWNGRADE THE MEETING BY HANDLING IT AS AN INFORMAL GATHERING OF THE ILO EUROPEAN WORKERS GROUP. HE ADDED THAT, IN THIS CONNECTION, THE ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY JOE MORRIS, THE GROUP'S CHAIRMAN, WILL BE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. AS FAR AS ILO IS CONCERNED, BLANCHARD INTENDS TO GIVE MINIMUM RESPONSE TO WORKER GROUP'S REQUESTS, AND TO PREVENT THIS GROUP FROM STEALING MAIN SHOW, WHICH IS THE TRIPARTITE REGIONAL EUROPEAN CONFERENCE. HE CONCEDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS TASK MIGHT NOT BE EASY IN VIEW OF EXPECTATION THAT SUCH "STARS" OF LABOR SCENE AS SHELEPIN (USSR), SEGUY AND MAIRE (FRANCE), AND LAMA (ITALY) WILL BE AT GENEVA WHERE THEY CAN BE COUNTED UPON TO PUT ON STAR PERFORMANCES.

E. IN THIS CONNECTION HE WELCOMED A REQUEST FROM EMPLOYERS GROUP FOR MEETING AND INTERPRETATION FACILITIES FOR AFTERNOON OF 20 JANUARY. HE FELT THAT THIS COULD HELP OFFSET SOME OF IMPRESSIONS LIKELY TO BE CREATED BY WORKERS GROUP.

3. COMMENT: BLANCHARD'S SPECIFIC STATEMENTS AND WHOLE ATTITUDE SEEM TO LEND SUPPORT TO ESTIMATE (REFTEL B THAT BLANCHARD IS GENUINELY CONVINCED THAT THE ILO DG WILL NEED FULL US SUPPORT IF HE IS TO SUCCEED IN REVITALIZING ILO. STONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PARIS00488  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740156/aaaacaxf.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) PARIS 0174; (B) GENEVA 6735  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <25 APR 2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ILO DG  
**TAGS:** ELAB, AORG, US, FR, ILO, (BLANCHARD, FRANCIS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005